

## **Youths Engaged in Leadership & Learning (YELL) Program**

*Purpose:* The purpose of the YELL program is to provide youth entering the ninth grade the training and experience to help them be positive role models in the community, as well as in the eyes of the campers they work with. The program promotes responsibility, teamwork, leadership, and communication. This is a 4-week program that includes at least 3 weeks of field experience under the supervision of the YELL Program Leader or a YELL Mentor.

*Benefits:* The program provides many benefits for the participants. The YELL Program provides valuable life skills (listed in the purpose). The program can also be the stepping-stone to a paid position with Miami Township when the youth turns 16 years old. A benefit for Miami Township is the opportunity to hire a camp counselor who has already been trained and is up to speed with our summer camp program. The program can also provide a base of highly trained recreation volunteers to utilize if needed (e.g. public events)

### *Outline:*

Below is an outline of the structure of the program. The classroom training that will be held the first week is tentatively scheduled for the week of June 8<sup>th</sup> through June 12<sup>th</sup>, but could be changed depending on the potential schedule conflicts with the accepted participants. We will do our best to schedule three-week field experience individually for each participant in an attempt to accommodate any summer vacations or activities

- Week 1 – Classroom style training
  - Camp Procedures, group discussions safety concerns, conflict resolution, CPR training....
- Weeks 2-4 – Supervised Field Experience (Supervised/mentored by a designated YELL Mentor)

*Cost:* We are currently pursuing funding to offset any expenses of the program; however there may be a small cost to help us cover these expenses. As soon as we know we will update our website

*Selection Criteria:* The YELL Program is only open to students who will be entering the ninth grade and will be fourteen years at the end of the 2008-2009 school year. YELL participants will be selected based on the information provided on their application and/or by their educational reference. All applications will be read and reviewed by the YELL Program Leader, and may also be read and reviewed by other township employees to best assure fairness in the selection process. We will select five or six participants, the number being based on the camp schedule and available summer staff members to serve as mentors. Out of these five or six positions, three will be open to any applicant, whether they are a Miami Township resident or not. The remaining program slots will only be given to youth who are Miami Township residents, unless no residents apply. Should no residents apply for the program, the remaining slots will be opened to all applicants. Should a YELL program position become vacant prior to May 15<sup>th</sup>, we will select the next best applicant to fill the position. Should a position become vacant after May 15<sup>th</sup>, that position will not be filled. Any questions or comments about the selection process should be directed to the YELL Program Leader.

### *For More Information:*

- There will be an information night on **March 12<sup>th</sup> 7:00** at the Miami Township Civic Center
- Questions? E-mail them to Drew Thiele, YELL Program Leader ([Drew.Thiele@miamitwpoh.gov](mailto:Drew.Thiele@miamitwpoh.gov)), or call our office (248-3727)

**APPLICATIONS ARE DUE MARCH 27<sup>th</sup>**. They can be dropped off at our office or mailed to:

YELL Program  
Miami Township Recreation Dept.  
6101 Meijer Dr  
Milford, OH 45150

